

THE REHEARSAL Of Observator, &c.

The Shooting through the Head LETTER Sent to Oxford.

The Counter-Suffle at Coventry. A Tryal of Skill at Hertford.

The Character of a Tacker. Wherein is shew'd that the Fate of the Occasional Bill has diverted the Church of all Her Legal Security.

From Saturday March the 24th, to Saturday March the 31st 1705.

Country-man.

IN the Bullying Mood I left thee last time, Thou Promis'dst to shew me one of the Circular Letters **YOUR** Party sends about, to Influence the Ensuing Elections. Do's thy Courage keep up still? **Obs.** It never Fails. Tho' I believe Thine will, when I shew it thee. And I will shew it thee for that Reason! It is the Reason for which **WE** send such Letters about, to Pluck down the Spirits of the High-Church, and make them Tremble Under **US**! Here's one **WE** sent to Oxford, where there's a Nest of High-Fliers. But **WE**'ll make them Low-Creepers, before **WE** have Done with them! The Letter is Directed For Mr. W—— of All Souls College in Oxford, and is in thele Words, The Names of the Tackers for Oxford-shire, who are Pensioners of France, and ought to be Shot through the Head, if they pretend to Appear at the Ensuing Election. Sir Robert Jenkinson. Sir Edward Norreys. William Bromley. Sir William Whitlock. Thomas Rowney. Francis Norreys. James Bertie. Sir William Glinn. Charles North.

Country-m. Short and Sweet! And we must suppose the like sent to other Places, all over the Kingdom. To teach them MODERATION! Now suppose the Church shou'd be willing to Learn **YOUR** Moderation, and Imitate it.

Obs. Thou Dog of Dogs. That woud make fine Work indeed! **OUR** Moderation! No. It is not **That WE** Recommend to Them. But **THEIR** OWN Moderation. A Silly, Passive, Non-Resistance MODERATION! Thou know'it, That is none of **OUR** Moderation. Nor Ever was. But— But—

Country-m. What's the Matter? What make'st put finger in Eye, and Cry, like a Great Booby?

Obs. It woud vex any body. I went t'other Day as far as Coventry, to Beat one of **YOUR** Moderation-Men—

Country-m. Well. And what then?

Obs. What then? Why when I went to Beat him— He woudn't Let me.

Country-m. And thou Blubbers and Cries for that! Why didn't thou take some body to Help thee? Thou Coudn't want Friends in Old Loyal Coventry!

Obs. I summon'd all **OUR** Moderation Men. And they came Readily, as Heart cou'd wish. But **THEIR** Moderation Men Came likewise. And **WE** Coudn't Perswade them to be Beaten QUIETLY! But they made a Disturbance and Hubub in the Town, (They always make Quarrels!) And Drove

US out of it. Their High-Church-Non-Resistance-Clubs DRUBB'D Plaguy! And has Employ'd all the Surgeons in the Town, to Plaifer the Low-Church Crowns.

Country-m. A High-Crown'd-Hat towards a Blow better than a Low-Crown'd one. And High of all forts Beats the Low. Even in Moderation is self!

Obs. This is Intolerable! What! Beaten, and Laugh'd at too! If **YOU** Begin not to be Afraid of **US**, **WE** must Begin to Begin again. **WE** are Undone! **WE** shall be the Low— Low indeed! And if **YOU** are too Many for **US** in Coventry, where shall we hope to Prevail?

Country-m. You try'd your hand again last Asizes at Hertford. And tho' the Peace was kept, because the Lord Lieutenant and Judges were in Town; Yet **YOU** were Out-Number'd, by a vast Majority of the High-Church, Out-Bawld, Out-Fac'd, Out-Done every way.

Obs. Is **OUR** Shooting through the Head Come to this? O Tempora! O Mores!

Country-m. Did'st think **We** were so Easie to be Bully'd?

Obs. I profess **WE** Thought so, by all **YOUR** past Behaviour! And now **YOU**'ve Learn'd **OUR** Moderation so Faſt, That **YOU**'r Got a Spit and a Stride Before **US**! I told thee last time we met, That **WE** had Provided the Word, No Tacker! No Tacker! To be the Cry, at the Ensuing Elections. And I hear, That some of **YOUR** High-Church-Folks have been before hand with **US**, and Given out the Word on their Side, A Tacker! A Tacker! Which Out-do's **US**, as much as Ay do's No, or the Plaintiff, the Defendant.

Country-m. Let me know what thou Mean'st by Tacker?

Obs. Tho' I've wrote much upon the Subject, I know no more of it, than that they are Tick-Tack-Men, and **WE**'ve Catch'd them at a Why Not. What do'st thou think they are?

Country-m. They are Gentlemen, of the Best Estates in the Nation. And therefore least to be Suspected of any Design to Betray their Country to a Foreign, or Invasive ARBITRARY Power.

They are Friends to the Church, not only as Christians but English-Men. That is, as they Believe the Church has a Spiritual Authority committed to her by CHRIST: So they know that She has a Legal Tenure and Establishment in England, which stands upon the same Foundation as their own Honors or Estates. And which Cannot be Shaken, but by the same Means as must Destroy

in Natural Consequence all the Property in England, and as they found it, in Effect in the Times of Forty-One. When the Bishops were turn'd out of the House of Lords, the Temporal Peers found themselves fit Loofe, and soon follow'd them: As did the Royal Authority; and the Law it self: And the Lives, Liberty, and Property of every Man in England were Expos'd to the Lawless and Arbitrary Sway of most TYRANNICAL Usurpers.

Now the Tackers are Men who see and Consider all this. And woud not have the same Game play'd over again. And therefore woud (if they had Leave) secure the Rights of the Church, as Firmly as Their own Properties, knowing that a Breach upon the One, is Opening the Door, and the first Step to the Invasion of the Other. As Both standing upon the same Foot of the Law and Constitution. Which when Broke in One Part, is Whole in None.

Obj. What doſt talk of Breaking in upon the Church, and Invading of her Rights? What Rights of her did WE invade? WE woud only Preserve our own Birth-Rights, to have a Share in the Government, and serve our Country, like other Men. And hinder her from Persecuting US, for OUR Conscience.

Country-m. Is it a Persecution for Conscience, not to let known Enemies to the Church, and the Monarchy (And who have Destroy'd Both before) into all the Great Offices of the State? And there was a Clause in the Tack'd Bill to Ease the Dissenters of Offices of Burthen. And they said Before, That they woud have willingly Accepted, nay Petition'd for the Bill if such a Clause had been in it. But Now they Reject it with Scorn. Which makes it plain, That it is not Liberty of Conscience, but Power that they Affect. And not a Share, but the Whole. As their Conduct since has Evidenc'd. It being Hard for any to keep his Feet, who is Stigmatiz'd as a True Friend of the Church!

But let me ask thee a Question. Suppose an Enemy who had Before Sack'd and Raz'd your City: And after Peace made, had made several Attempts to Betray and Burn it: And shou'd desire Leave Now only to Pull down your Walls; Alledging they were of no Use to you, only hinder'd you from the free Air; And besides, that it woud be no Invading of your Property, for that he woud not Touch one of your Houses. No, upon his Word he woud not. Only have it in his Power! For that this Watching and Warding against One Another, was a Breach of the Peace, and tended to Create ill-Blood and Jealousie among Friends, &c.

Obj. What doſt bring in such a Ridiculous Supposition for? It cou'd be Offer'd to none of Common-Sense!

Country-m. You ask'd me just now, what Rights of the Church YOU had Invaded? What Security had YOU taken from her? Now I'll make my Parallel. YOU Whiggs and Dissenters, Joyn'd with Our MODERATE Clergy, who Most Compos'd the Assembly of Divines at Westminster, Tore up our Church by the Roots. As well as Destroy'd the King, and Civil Constitution After the Restoration, 1660. Laws were made for their Establishment, and future Security. Particularly, the Act of Uniformity, the Corporation Act, and the Test Act. These are the LEGAL Fences of the Church as well as of the State.

Now YOU Dissenters have wholly Eluded the Import and Intendment of these Acts, by a New Invention of Occasional Conformity. Which YOU have Prevail'd upon YOUR Consciences to Comply with, for Good Places! And to Restore these Acts to their True Meaning, was the only Design of the Occasional Bill. Which having been so often Rejected, tho' Mollify'd to all the Ease possible to the Conscience of Dissenters; and if they understood it, their True Interest too, that is Consistent with any Securituy to the Church and Constitution; The Consequence is Unavoidable, That the Church (not to say the State) has Lost her LEGAL Security, and the Benefit Prop'sd to her by these Acts. And this is, Pulling down her Walls, and Transferring her to Poverty, Naked as she came into the World, and Divesed of all Defence and Security from the Law.

Obj. By this, you Accuse the Anti-Tackers of all their Evil Designs.

Country-m. No. I do not. I am not of your Villainous Breed, who Throw out with Malice and Fury against All that do not Jmp Exactly with YOUR Notions of Things. I may do Justice to one without Branding Another. And Honest Men may Differ in Judgment, as to Prudential Methods. And the whole House of Commons, both Tackers and Anti-Tackers, have (as I told thee in my Last) Voted it to be Villainous and Seditious to Asperse any Member of the House with being in the Interest of the pretended Prince of Wales, &c. for his Behaviour and Proceedings in the House. So that THOU art a Villain on all hands, and all thy Scandalous Club, who Employ most of their Time in Aspersing the Members of Both Houses who do not Please YOU, and the Whole Ministry, with the Foulest Lies and Slander. And when YOU have nothing to say, Cry out Rome and St. Germain! Which will Run with the Mobb, that do not Examine Things.

But the Reputation of the Tackers is above the Infelction of Thy Poysn'd Breath. The Nation knows that they were no Powisers. That they were not Accus'd in the last Reign, with Corruption or Receiving Louis'ores from Count Tallard. That they didn't Vote then for a Standing Army, in time of Peace. That they are not Concern'd in the new Erected Corporations. That they Enjoy not Places, and Pensions at the Will of the Court. That they Rail'd not at the Good Management in the late Reign; and by that Means, made themselves Necessary to be taken off, and now Enjoy Warm Places and Pensions, so Purchased. How many of all these Sorts will you find among the Tackers? They have Acquitted themselves, in all Turns, with the Least Blemish upon them, of any in that Honourable House, Disparagement to None. They have, most of any, Espous'd the Cause of their Country, and the Publick Good, free from Selfish and Sinister Ends. Their Great Estates, Deriv'd from their Ancient Families, sets them Above Bribery. And their Liberal Education, Inspires them with a Noble Concern for their Country. Which affords not such Another Number of Gentlemen, so Characteriz'd with all the Virtues of Patriots, among those that sit within St. Stephen's Chapel. Including those who Bemoan their ill Fortune in being at that time, Absent, which Depriv'd them of the Honour of having their Names Recorded in

The List of the Tackers.